



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#8/A
8-4-99
Shore

Serial No. 09/118,730
Filed: July 17, 1998
Inventors: Ellington M. Beavers et al
Title: METHOD OF MAKING FREE ACIDS
FROM POLYSACCHARIDE SALTS
Examiner: E. White
Art Unit: 1623
File No.: 281-28

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE
IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES
POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN
ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER OF
PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS, WASHINGTON, D.C.
20231, ON THE DATE INDICATED BELOW.

BY: William H. Ellberg
DATE: 7/13/99

AMENDMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Applicants submit this Amendment in response to the Official Action of
March 15, 1999. A Petition for Extension of Time, and a check for \$55.00,
are attached. Please amend the above-identified application as follows.

RECEIVED

JUL 21 1998

IN THE CLAIMS:

✓
Please cancel Claims 9-19, without prejudice.

TECH CENTER 1600/2000

Please amend the following claims as shown:

1. (Amended) A free-acid form of hyaluronic acid suitable for place-
ment permanently or temporarily in the body, made by the method comprising

the steps of:

a) dissolving an alkali-metal salt of hyaluronic acid in water to
form a solution,

a
b) dispersing in said solution an acid capable of producing a pH of
2.2 or lower at concentrations in water at 25° C of 0.01 Normal to 1
Normal,

c) enclosing the dispersion formed in step (b) within a semi-
permeable membrane having a molecular weight cut-off at least large enough